

Dear Members of the Connecticut Human Services Committee,

My name is Patricia Rosas, I live in Hartford. I am an immigrant mother and grandmother, and a member of *UACT - Manos Unidas de New Britain* and *Hartford Deportation Defense*. I'm in favor of **HB6616: An Act Concerning Expansion Of Husky Health Benefits To Those Ineligible Due To Immigration Status**.

I am in favor of Husky health insurance for ALL immigrants here in CT.

In my case I have lived in my own flesh a very difficult health situation. In 2019 I was diagnosed with a gall stone and cancer in my right kidney. Unfortunately I had to deal with very insensitive medical personnel because when they heard that I did not have medical insurance they denied care and the doctor even told me to go back to my country, that maybe they would treat me there—can you imagine that answer?

I could not believe I was receiving such serious news. That was the beginning of a great fight, thanks to the community and many people who don't even know me. They donated money and advocated for me so that I could be taken care of. Thanks to that I am still alive.

Unfortunately it didn't stop there. For 5 years they have to keep checking me to make sure that the cancer doesn't come back. As long as I don't have medical insurance it is still a torture to have to go through the tests and have to find a way to pay for them.

As immigrants we bring so much to this country and this state. Here we live and work to get ahead—why deny us the right to have Husky?

**I support HB6616** and hope the committee will vote in favor of continuing to expand HUSKY health insurance for our immigrant communities. Expanding to age 26 is a great step but we must continue to move forward until all ages have access.

Thanks for your time,  
Patricia Rosas  
*Hartford CT*